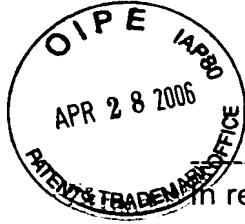


EXPRESS MAIL LABEL: EV532027595US

PATENT CASE: SF0977XB US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Elizabeth Bates *et al.* :
For Patent: Monocyte-Derived Nucleic :
Acids and Related :
Compositions and Methods :
Serial No.: 10/780,043 :
Filed: February 17, 2004 :
Examiner: Chun Crowder
Group Art Unit: 1625
April 28, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Schering-Plough Corporation
Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION
AND STATEMENTS UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.825

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 22, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.